

**REMARKS**

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 19, 20 and 22-36 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth herein below.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating claims 21-23, 26, 29, 33 and 36 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In light of this indication, claim 19 has been amended to include the subject matter recited in claim 21, and claims 30 and 36 have been rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, the rejections of the claims noted in the Office Action are moot and the independent claims are allowable. The Specification has also been amended to recite the relationship between this application and the corresponding PCT application

**Claim For Priority**

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner has recognized the Applicant's claim for foreign priority. Because the Applicant's claim for foreign priority has been perfected, no additional action is required from the Applicant at this time.

**Drawings**

The Examiner has not approved the Formal Drawings submitted by the Applicant. It is respectfully submitted that the drawings comply with the requirements of the U.S.P.T.O. If the Examiner has an objection to the Formal Drawings he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned as soon as possible so that appropriate action may be taken. No further action is believed to be necessary at this time unless the undersigned receives a notice from the Examiner.

**Acknowledgement of Information Disclosure Statement**

The Examiner has acknowledged the previously filed Information Disclosure Statement. An initialed copy of the PTO-1449 has been received from the Examiner. No further action is necessary at this time.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the claims clearly distinguish over the patents relied on by the Examiner, either alone or in combination.

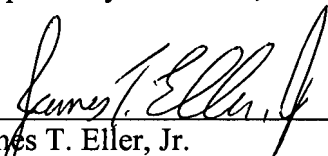
Because the remaining patents cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject the claims, but to merely show the state of the art, no comment need be made with respect thereto.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone David A. Bilodeau at (703) 205-8072 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: October 24, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By   
James T. Eller, Jr.

Registration No.: 39,538

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP  
8110 Gatehouse Road  
Suite 100 East  
P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000  
Attorney for Applicant